

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 22, 2020

CONTACT:

Melaney Arnold – 217-558-0500 Covid.media@illinois.gov

Public Health Officials Announce 296 New Cases of Coronavirus Disease

SPRINGFIELD – The Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) today announced 296 new cases of coronavirus disease (COVID-19) in Illinois, including an infant. IDPH also announced three deaths. The deaths included a Cook County man in his 80s, a Chicago man in his 80s, and a McLean County woman in her 70s. Jo Daviess, Livingston, Rock Island, and Stephenson counties are now also reporting cases. Currently, IDPH is reporting a total of 1,049 cases in 30 counties in Illinois. The age of cases ranges from younger than one to 99 years.

Health officials are still learning about this new virus and information and guidance is rapidly evolving. At this time, it is still unknown if a pregnant woman with COVID-19 can pass the virus to her fetus or baby during pregnancy or delivery. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, no infants born to mothers with COVID-19 have tested positive for the COVID-19 virus. In these cases, which are a small number, the virus was not found in samples of amniotic fluid or breastmilk.

Cases by county can be found on the <u>IDPH website</u>, as well as a list of <u>local health departments</u> who will have the most up-to-date information.

For donations, email <u>PPE.donations@illinois.gov</u>. For health questions about COVID-19, call the hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email <u>dph.sick@illinois.gov</u>.

###

